Appl. No. 09/965,933
Amdt. sent March 26, 2004
Reply to Office Action of November 28, 2003

PATENT

## REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Claims 6 - 11 are pending.

Claim 6 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) for allegedly being anticipated by U.S. Publication No. 2002/0147924, issued to Flyntz.

A restriction requirement was imposed on claims 1 - 6 as originally filed. Mr. Robert C. Colwell elected with traverse to proceed with examination claim 6, in a telephone conversation with the Examiner on November 18, 2003. Affirmation of the election of claim 6 is hereby made.

The specification has been amended to properly claim priority to a Japanese publication. A certified copy of the priority document is enclosed herewith to perfect the priority claim.

The present invention is directed generally to the retrieval of data. An aspect of the invention as recited in independent claim 6, for example, includes "storing a user attribute disclosure policy, the policy including one or more access conditions and one or more user attributes." An access processor is identified "from among a plurality of access processors" by "comparing the user attribute disclosure policy with access control information associated [with each access processor] to identify at least a first access processor." The access request and some part of the user attribute disclosure policy are then communicated to the identified access processor "so that the first access processor can service the access request in accordance with its access control information and with the information that is based on the user attribute disclosure policy." Kindly see independent claim 9 as well.

Flyntz discloses a smart card system. As shown in Fig. 1 and discussed in paragraphs 36 and 37, a smart card 30 has identification information. A smart card reader 31 interacts with the smart card 30 and stored identification information.

Flyntz does not show a plurality of access processors. Instead, Flyntz shows a single smart card reader. Flyntz does not show identifying at least a first access processor from among the plurality of access processors, since he shows only a single smart card reader and therefore there can be no identifying from a plurality or processors. Flyntz therefore does not
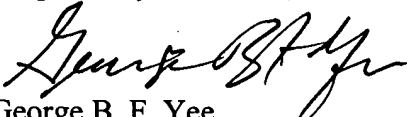
show <u>comparing the user attribute disclosure policy with access control information associated</u> [with an access processor] <u>to identify at least a first access processor.</u> For at least any one of the foregoing distinctions over Flyntz, the Section 102 rejection is believed to be overcome.

## CONCLUSION

In view of the foregoing, Applicants believe all claims now pending in this Application are in condition for allowance. The issuance of a formal Notice of Allowance at an early date is respectfully requested.

If the Examiner believes a telephone conference would expedite prosecution of this application, please telephone the undersigned at 650-326-2400.

Respectfully submitted,

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